SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Python Pilot Program Updates

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Land Resources Bureau Chief
Governing Board Meeting
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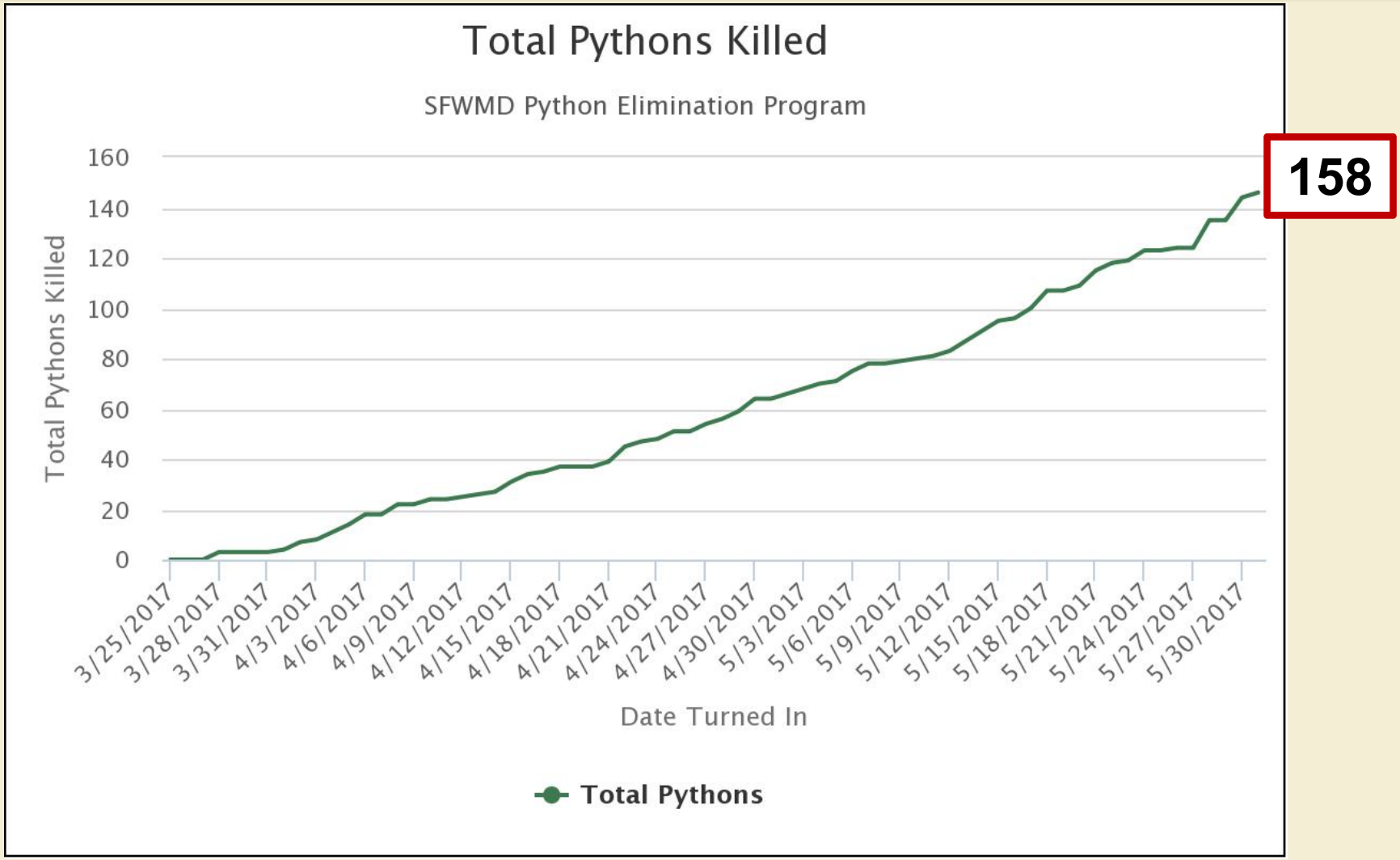
sfwmd.gov

Program Statistics (March 25-June 1, 2017)

- Total Pythons: 158
- Total length: 1,369 feet (roof of Empire State Building=1,250')
- Total weight: 3,725.2 pounds
- Total hours: 3,003
- Hourly pay: $24,054
- Cash payment: $25,450
- Total program cost: $49,504
- Remaining budget balance: $125,496

Program Statistics



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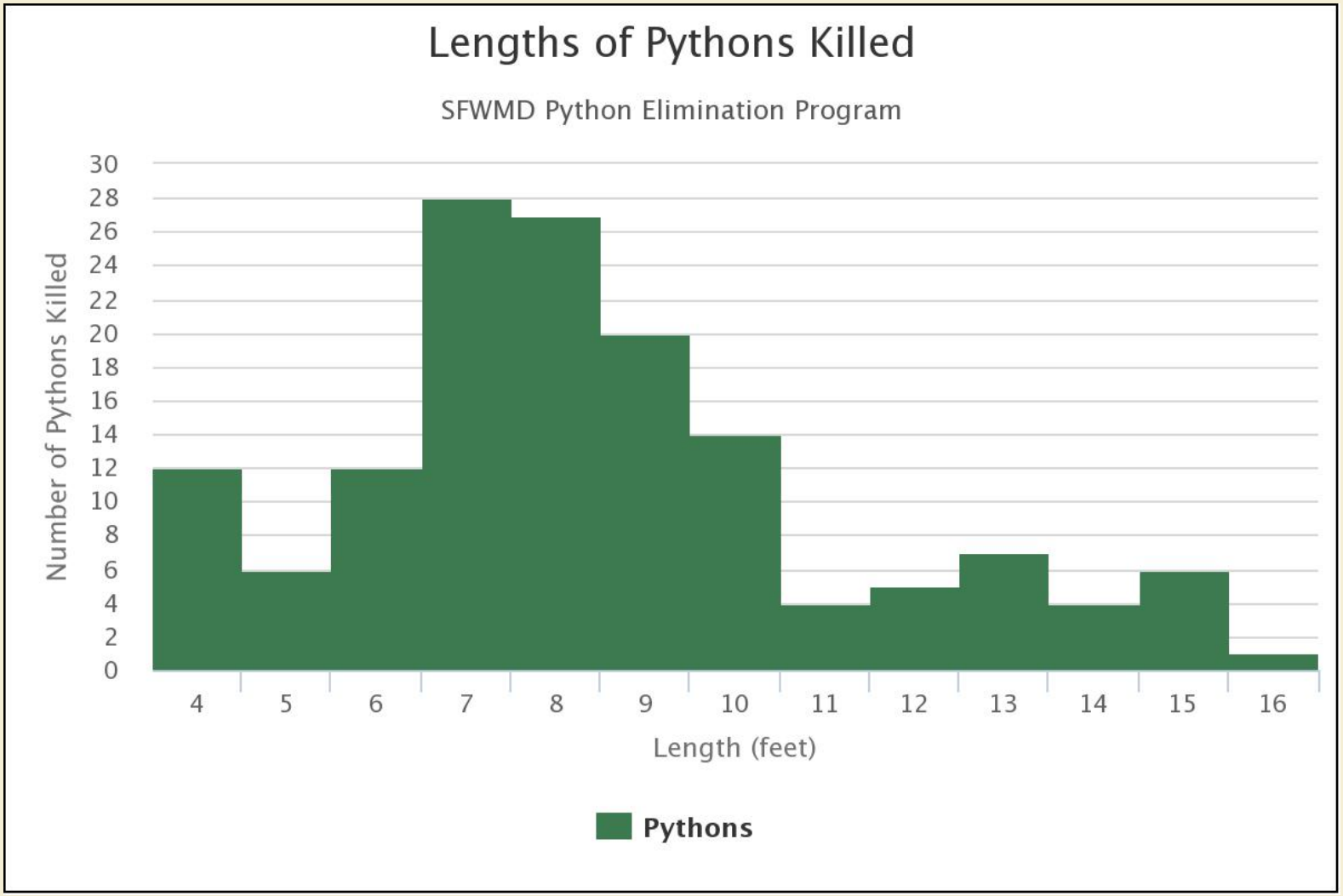

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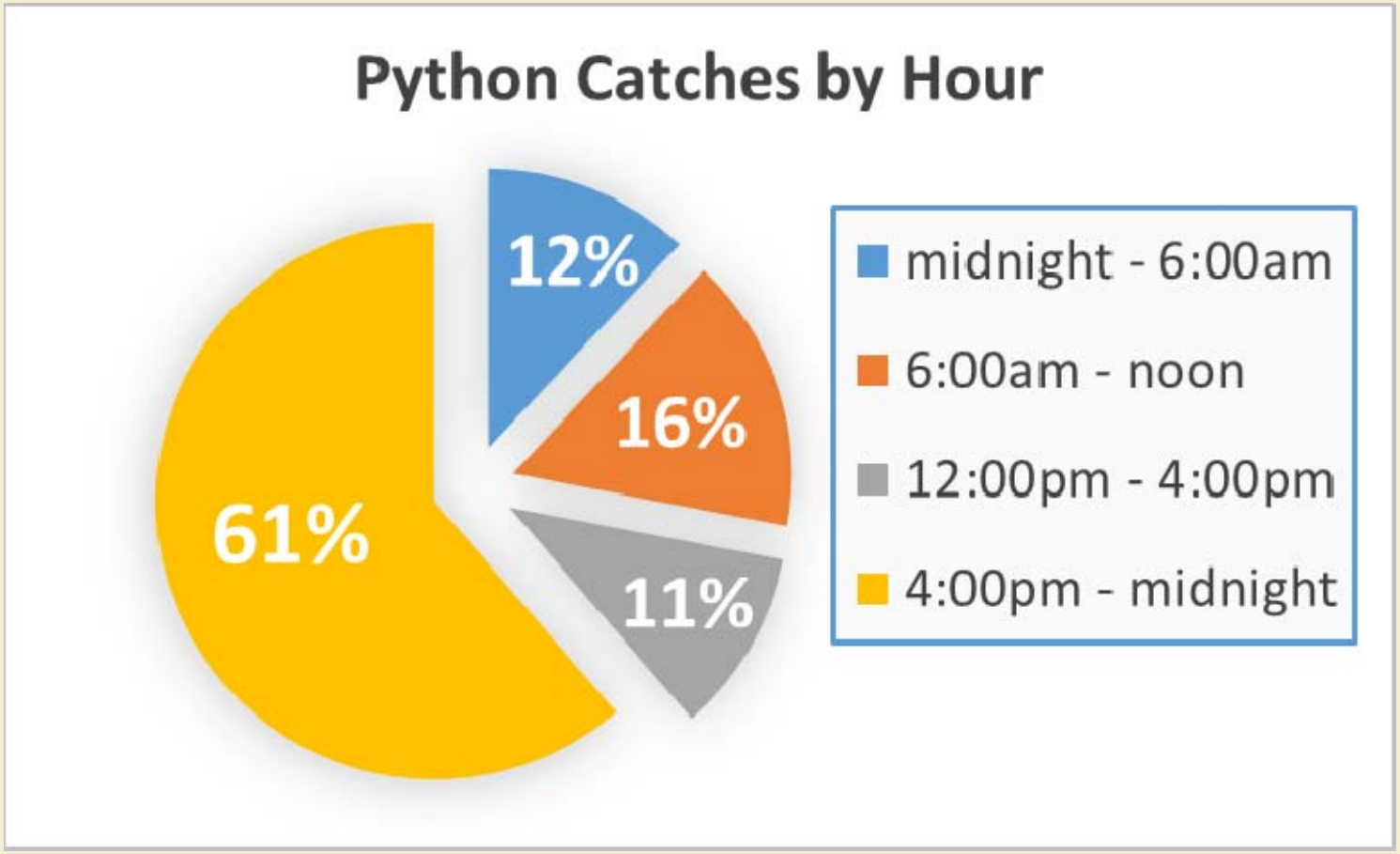

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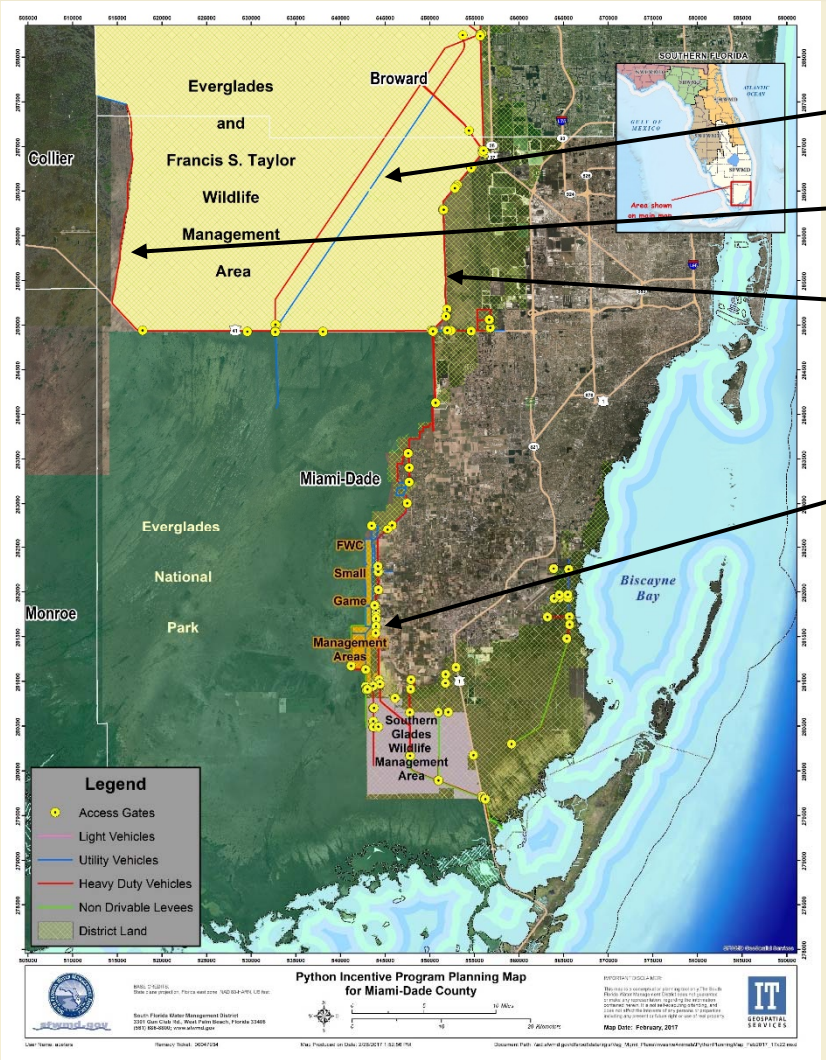

L-67 (28 pythons)

L-28 Tieback (62 pythons)

L-30 (10 pythons)

Rocky Glades (27 pythons)

Various other locations in Project area (31 pythons)

Total : 158 pythons

Python Program Phase II
Options for Time and Range

- Option #1 (status quo)
  - Continue the program June 17th through September 30th in current range and scope of work.
- Option #2
  - Pause the program and restart during colder months (i.e. November 2017 through March 2018) in current range and scope of work.
- Option #3
  - Continue the program June 17th through September 30th in Miami-Dade, and expand to Broward and Collier Counties.

Python Program Phase II
Options for Bounty Payment

- Option #1 (status quo)
  - Continue on site cash payments.
- Option #2
  - Bounty payments mailed to participants using existing District vendor check payment system.
- Option #3
  - Continue cash payments at Homestead Field Station and issue checks at additional drop off locations.

Python Program Phase II
Options for Survey Payment

- Option #1 (status quo)
  - Continue $8.10/hour with maximum of 8 hours/day.
- Option #2
  - Replace hourly payment with flat rate of $45/day for minimum survey time.
- Option #3
  - Replace hourly payment with per diem of $35/day for 1-4 hours worked or $65/day for 5-8 hours worked.

Python Program Phase II
Additional changes

- Replace low performing participants with new recruits from prequalified pool (currently evaluating 5 participants).
- Add an additional 10 participants from prequalified pool to bring total program to 35 hunters.
- Field Station drop off times Monday through Thursday and two hours on Saturday. Decreases overtime and increase cost avoidance.
- FWC Executive Order to include new Wildlife Management Areas in additional counties.

Python Program Phase II
Staff Recommendations

- Continue the program June 17th through September 30th in Miami-Dade, and expand to Broward and Collier Counties.
- Bounty payments mailed to participants using existing District vendor check payment system.
- Continue $8.10/hour with maximum of 8 hours/day.
- Recommendations will streamline program processes and increase efficiencies while maintaining current payment to python hunters.

It takes a village…

- Many thanks to the hunters and hard working team at the South Florida Water Management District!
  - Homestead Field Station staff
  - Land Stewardship staff
  - District Headquarters staff
    - Budget and Procurement
    - Office of Communication
    - Office of Counsel
    - Land Resources Bureau
    - Mike Kirkland - Python Project Manager and Scientist

Questions?

Tom Rahill, Lt. Governor Lopez-Cantera, and Omar Gomez with 15’ 10” python in Miami-Dade